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Psychiatrist 'Astonished' by Warren Commission Report on Oswald

Chicago

A psychiatrist has reported that he was "astonished" to find nothing valid in the Warren Commission report on the personality and motives of Lee Oswald, accused assassin of President John F. Kennedy.

He proposed a new study involving "individuals of significance" in Oswald's life, including his mother and his wife, Marina.

"In this way it would possible to build up an understanding of Oswald," said Dr. Maier Tuchler of Phoenix, "and an attempt could be made to clarify why he committed the acts as charged."

Tuchler blamed the dearth of sound psychiatric information on the absence of psychiatrists plus the Commission's practice, "common to a group of intellectuals, of functioning as lay psychiatrists."

"I am appalled at conclusions that involve psychiatric evaluations and judgments without the benefit of trained professional thinking," said Tuchler.

"Of the 522 witnesses interviewed and of the thousands of reports presented to the commission, not one psychiatrist studied any portion of the data gathered for the purpose of a professional psychiatric opinion."

Tuchler spoke in a panel discussion of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences here.

The discussion was aimed at evaluating how effectively scientific techniques were used by the commission.

Chicago Daily News